

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

DATE DISTR. 1 August 1952

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U. S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

- 2 The main obstacle in completing the furnace is a shortage of construction iron, steel and cast iron needed for combustion. (Lanthum) and pipes. There is at present a shortage of 7,000 tons of iron.
- 3 The GDR Economic Plan for 1952 included completion of the first Lanthum plant and construction of a second modeled after the first. The second plant was to produce 750,000 tons of coke annually starting 1 January 1953.
- 4 Because of the difficulties thus far experienced in building the first plant, (Hru) Bilasoroth, chief of the Projektierungs- und Konstruktionsbüro in Berlin-Weissensee, and Prof. (Hru) Kasper of the Bergakademie Freiberg, who are the two experts concerned with Lanthum, requested Minister Heinrich Rau to delay the plan for the second plant; the postponement was to last until difficulties in the first plant's construction were overcome and until production processes could be tested in it.
- 5 Rau requested that ZFT take its views known to him. In April 1952, Dr. Kurt von Haunert, head of Fachgebiet Kuppel und Mauerwerk in the research and development department of ZFT, strongly supported the position of the two experts.
- 6 Shortly after this request, Rau's deputy, State Secretary Strassenberger, called a ZFT conference to reach a decision on the construction of the second installation. The session was attended by Strassenberger; Dr. Werner Lange, head of ZFT; Dr. von Haunert; Dr. Günther Panning, head of Fachgebiet Chemie, Steine und Erden within ZFT; and Dr. Weiszel, head of Fachgebiet Metallurgie. The conference decided to test the production of the first plant for a reasonably long period before proceeding with the second. The second would thereby benefit from lessons learned from the first. Until the fall of 1952, the functioning of water supply, energy supply and disposal of waste water in Plant 1 will be closely observed. Dr. Panning's was the only dissenting vote among those cast. The decision has been approved by the State Planning Commission.

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~

[illegible]

DO NOT CIRCULATE